



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 53
Denver, CO 80225-0046

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 801A

September 25, 2019

Mr. Austin Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street Northwest, Suite b255
Washington, District of Columbia 20005
foia@americanoversight.org

Re: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Tracking # USGS-2019-00208 – No Records Response

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is our response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated August 28, 2019, in which you requested the following records:

- All email communications between November 1, 2019 – August 28, 2019 (including email messages, email attachments, calendar invitations, and attachments thereto) sent by Director James Reilly, Acting Deputy Director Cynthia Lodge, Chief of Staff Judy Nowakowski, or advisor Rob Gordon, to any employee or representative of the following:
 - a. American Enterprise Institute (@aei.org)
 - b. Americans for Prosperity (@americansforprosperity.org)
 - c. American Petroleum Institute (@api.org)
 - d. British Petroleum (@bp.com)
 - e. Cato Institute (@cato.org)
 - f. CO2 Coalition (@co2coalition.org)
 - g. Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (@cfact.org)
 - h. Competitive Enterprise Institute (@cei.org)
 - i. Energy and Environmental Legal Institute (@eelegal.org)
 - j. Exxon Mobil (@exxonmobil.com)
 - k. The Heartland Institute (@heartland.org)
 - l. Heritage Foundation (@heritage.org)
 - m. Institute for Energy Research (@instituteeforenergyresearch.org)
 - n. Koch Industries (@kochind.com)
 - o. Manhattan Institute for Policy Research (@manhattan-institute.org)
 - p. National Mining Association (@nma.org)
 - q. Pacific Research Institute (@pacificresearch.org)

r. The Right Climate Stuff (@therightclimatestuff.com)
s. Texas Public Policy Foundation (@texaspolicy.com)

After thoroughly searching our files, the U.S. Geological Survey did not locate records responsive to your request. I am responsible for this denial.

On August 29, 2019, classified you as “other-use” requester category. On August 29, 2019, we granted your request for a fee waiver. As such, you are not being charged for the processing of your request.

You may appeal this response to the Department’s FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer. If you choose to appeal, the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer must receive your FOIA appeal **no later than 90 workdays** from the date of this letter. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

Your appeal must be made in writing. You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must include an explanation of why you believe the USGS’s response is in error. You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and USGS concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and USGS's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and USGS will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer’s sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or clarification of your appeal.

DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information

Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
1849 C Street, N.W.
MS-6556 MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office
Telephone: (202) 208-5339
Fax: (202) 208-6677
Email: FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov

The 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
Telephone: (202) 741-5770
Fax: (202) 741-5769
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer.

You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Brian May, at the following address:

U.S. Geological Survey
FOIA Public Liaison
5522 Research Park Drive
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Telephone: (443) 498-5521
Fax: (443) 498-5510
Email: foia@usgs.gov


This completes our response under your request. If you have any questions about our response to your request, you may contact me by phone at (303) 236-2737, by email at foia@usgs.gov, or by mail at Denver Federal Center, Box 25046, Mail Stop 801A; Denver, Colorado 80225.

Thank you for your interest in the U.S. Geological Survey.

Sincerely,

GEORG-
ANDREAS
POGANY

Georg-Andreas Pogány
U.S. Geological Survey
Government Information Specialist

 Digitally signed by GEORG-
ANDREAS POGANY
Date: 2019.09.25 12:13:46
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